

CLASSIFICATION

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

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TOPIC Military Activities in the Northern Section of East Germany

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 28 April 1955

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REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 1 April 1955, it was learned that 90 technicians were employed in the preparation of new maps in Russian of the entire area of the GDR.¹ 25X1
2. Between noon and 1310 on 5 April, the following vehicles and weapons came from the direction of the Herrenkrug Kaserne (5283) and passed over the northern road bridge (Wilhelm Pieck Bruecke) in Magdeburg: 8 M-13 rocket launchers, 6 x 76-mm field guns, 3 guns with short conical barrel, without muzzle brake, caliber approximately 80-mm, backward sloping straight protective shield, equilibrator under the barrel and box-type trails, about 44 trucks and 3 field kitchens.² 25X1
The units returned toward Herrenkrug Kaserne at 0630 on 7 April. Soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and motor vehicle were seen.² 25X1
3. In mid-April, Camp Schweinrich at the Wittstock training grounds was occupied by a guard detail of approximately 100 soldiers and a fatigue detail of some soldiers who were engaged in digging-out field cables. Three tank sheds at the southern edge of the camp had been dismantled and had been shipped away toward Wittstock.³
4. Between 2100 on 8 April, and 0500 on 9 April, 3 JSU-122 guns engaged in a night firing at the Gentsrode post training grounds near Neuruppin. The targets were not lighted during the firing. On 10 April, 3 T-34 tanks held a night firing practices at the same time and in the same area. The tanks fired at unlighted targets, 1,600 to 1,800 meters from their positions. Subsequently, the targets were lighted for inspection of hits.⁴
5. In early April, it was learned that the units from the Perleberg post were to leave for the summer camp between 20 and 25 April, reportedly for Waldlager II south of Huetten in the Letzling Heath. After 6 April, individual trucks with billeting equipment left the post. Camp Schweinrich at the Wittstock training grounds was allegedly to be occupied by air force units.⁵
6. At 2000 on 19 April, 8 x 160-mm mortars, 8 full-track prime movers, 4 trucks and 1 field kitchen were detrained at the Rathenow Nordbahnhof and left for the Pionier Kaserne (5442) in Rathenow.⁶ 25X1

1. Comment, Plane table sheets for Soviet use were presumably being prepared. 25X1

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2. Comment. [redacted] artillery units of the 19th Gds Mecz Div [redacted] practices in the Letzling Heath in late March. [redacted] of the unidentified gun tends to indicate that [redacted] contain guns. Since, this type of gun does not belong to the [redacted] mechanized division, however, and has not been observed in the [redacted] have been observed.

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3. Comment. Observations by the [redacted] each other. It is possible that the 18th Mecz Div will [redacted] transferred to the Wittstock training grounds but to a summer camp at another training grounds in 1955.

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4. Comment. The tanks may have been equipped with a night sighting mechanism.

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5. Comment. Reports from Rathenow indicated that the 65th Mort Brig had been allotted tractors as towing machines for the 160-mm mortars during the month of March. [redacted] unit of the brigade probably returned from firing practices at Altengrabow.

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